

Message Text

PAGE 01 TOKYO 12351 060500Z

20

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 OFA-01

OES-05 ERDA-07 NRC-07 /073 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3024

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 12351

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

1. PSYCHOLOGICAL: WITH SUMMER "OFFICIALLY" ENDING IN JAPAN AND VACATIONERS RETURNING TO EVERYDAY ROUTINES AND POLITICAL REALITIES, PUBLIC ATTENTION TENDED TO FOCUS ON DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ISSUES IN PAST WEEK. SECDEF SCHLESINGER VISIT AND PRESS CONFERENCES PRODUCED EXPECTED CONCLUSIONS THAT ANNUAL CONSULTATION ON SECURITY IS NEEDED AT CABINET LEVEL AND THA GREATER JAPANESE EFFORT IS NEEDED TO ENSURE OWN DEFENSE AND BOOST ROK SECURITY WITH ECONOMIC/TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE. MAJOR MEDIA FAULTED THIS OUTCOME ONLY BY CLAIMING IT OFFERED NO OBVIOUS BREAKOUT FROM CURRENT STATE OF TENSION ON KOREAN PENINSULA. IMPACT OF FORCUS ON REALITIES OF NEASIAN SECURITY SITUATION, ALWAYS UNPLEASANT FOR PACIFISTIC PUBLIC, WAS MUCH SOFTENED BY WELL-WRITTEN FEATURE STORIES ON SCHLESINGER BIRD-WATCHING TRIP TO KARUIZAWA AFTER OFFICIAL TALKS ENDED. MEDIA ALSO CLOSELY FOLLOWED BUT PUBLICLY RESERVED JUDGEMENT ON INCIDENT OF NORTH KORAN SEIZURE OF JAPANESE FISHING BOAT WITH UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TOKYO 12351 060500Z

REPORTED CASUALTIES AMONG CREW MEMBERS.

2. SECDEF SCHLESINGER VISIT: DURING THREE-DAY JAPAN VISIT, SECDEF SCHLESINGER GAVE USIS-FACILITATED PRESS CONFERENCES FOR

JAPANESE PRESS CORPS AT JAPAN PRESS CLUBB AND FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE, RESULTING IN WIDE AND PROMINENT MEDIA COVERAGE. SECRETARY'S STATEMENTS THERE ON U.S. SECURITY POLICY IN NORTHEAST ASIA WAS CLEAREST AND MOST USEFUL MADE IN LONG TIME AND WENT FAR TOWARD LAYING TO REST PROBLEM AREAS WHICH JAPANESE COMMENTATORS HAD PERCEIVED IN SOME PREVIOUS EXPOSITIONS OF U.S. POLICY IN AREA. IN PARTICULAR, QUESTION OF POSSIBLE RESORT TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN ANY RENEWED KOREAN HOSTILITIES WAS EFFECTIVELY DEFUSED AS EMOTIONAL ISSUE BY SECDEF STATEMENTS IN ROK AND TOKYO THAT LIKELIHOOD OF HOSTILITIES IN KOREA IS VERY SLIGHT AND THAT, EVEN IF WAR RESUMED, SUFFICIENCY OF US-RK CONVENTIONAL ARMS MAKES RESORT TO NUKES EXTREMELY REMOTE POSSIBILITY. PERHAPS AS PARTIAL CONSEQUENCE OF SUCH STATEMENTS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST SECDEF VISIT PROVED QUITE PERFUNCTORY.

3. ROBERT WALKER DISCUSSES CHANGING AMERICAN VALUES: VOLSPKR ROBERT WALKER, GWU PROFESSOR, LECTURED AUGUST 26 AT NAGOYA AMERICAN CENTER AND AUGUST 28 AT TOKYO AMERICANS CENTER ON "CHANGING AMERICAN VALUE SYSTEM." ACADEMIC AUDIENCE IN NAGOYA AND MIXED AUDIENCE (ACADEMIC, GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS) AT TOKYO HEARD WALKER PRESENT POSITIVE PICTURE OF VALUE TRANSITION PROCESS IN U.S. WALKER ALSO MADE VTR FOR REGIONAL SE AND AGREED TO PREPARE ARTICLE FOR POST'S "TRENDS" MAGAZINE.

4. RANTA CONCERT APPRECIATED IN SAPPORO: MODERNIST MUSICIAN/ COMPOSER MICHAEL RANTA BEGAN CURRENT JAPAN PROGRAM SERIES AT SAPPORO AUGUST 28-29 WITH "LATE SUMMER JAPAN-AMERICA MULTIMUSICAL FESTIVAL." APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE OF 225 PERSONS, INCLUDING 54 FROM PRIMARY AUDIENCE, ATTENDED THIS EVENT. MILLER

UNCLASSIFIED

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